

TWO SUSPECTS WERE ARRESTED SATURDAY

But Were Allowed to Go After a Rigid Cross Examination by Authorities.

Considerable alarm was felt in the city on Saturday at noon by the arrest of two young men as suspected spies, but the cause for anxiety vanished almost as quickly as it had arisen, the two men being able to come through a most rigid cross-examination by the authorities. The movements of the suspects, however, and their conduct prior to their arrest furnishes an interesting story.

Many Complaints Lodged

At the beginning of last week many complaints reached Brandon of two men having been seen at Lenore, Kenton, Oak Lake and other places, taking photographs and making plans and also behaving in a most suspicious manner by having their mail re-addressed to them at a room in an hotel which they allowed no one to enter save themselves. This close conduct and the fact that they seemed to have no difficulty in living without serious work, naturally aroused curiosity, which ripened into suspicion and then grew to alarm.

Registration Agent Busy

It was on Thursday that Ald. W. Bourke, the recently appointed registration agent, was acquainted with the facts and he quickly set about his task of making a full investigation. Mr. Bourke not only wired for information but sent a man to some of the towns where they had stayed, telling him to keep in close touch with Brandon. It was learned that the two men were coming in on the train arriving here at eleven o'clock Saturday.

Trainmen Were Posted

The trainmen and conductor were posted to be on the lookout for the two, also the conductor and Ald. Bourke went to meet the train. Tipped off by the conductor he watched the two and found what he expected. One left by the east entrance and the other through the main entrance and they parted. Mr. Bourke followed one man and, taking another citizen into his confidence—or, at least, making him an impromptu detective, told him to watch and follow the other man. This was done, and, strange enough, both landed at the same hotel.

Men Under Arrest

This was enough. Ald. Bourke went to the arena and got Col. Clark, who promptly sent an armed guard and the two men were placed under arrest and taken to the arena. They were searched and their papers examined. Not only that, but Ald. Bourke made an examination of their trunks, this, it should be stated, being agreeable to both men.

Worked For Newspaper

The men admitted all the things charged to them, but said they were working! for a newspaper firm in Montreal. One was a French-Canadian, and gave his name as Moses Backhand, while the other was an Englishman named Estrange Fawcett. No incriminating documents were found on them and on being able to answer every question satisfactorily they were allowed to go. They left the city for a town further west, the name of which is withheld from publication at the request of the authorities.

Aliens Must Register

Under the alien registration act all aliens must register, and Ald. Bourke will soon have a list of all the aliens in a large area covering Brandon and the surrounding territory. He has been appointed by an order-in-council, passed by the Dominion government, and his powers in the direction already indicated are of a very wide character. The prompt arrest of the two men on Saturday is an excellent instance of what may be expected when suspicion is aroused by curious actions or by circumstances which are not compatible with observance of law and order being respected.

Arrests at Emerson

Winnipeg, Dec. 5.—Two more Austrian suspects were brought in this morning to Fort Osborne from Emerson, on suspicion of belonging to the Otto Geiler gang. It is thought that these two men were endeavoring to enter the United States to go through to New York when held up. There is no specific charge laid against them except that of being suspects.